

Social Forms and Entertainments



Celebrating the Tin Wedding.

An author who was about to celebrate the tenth anniversary of her marriage describes her plans in this way:

"For refreshments, will serve coffee in tin cup, with tin spoons, and dainty sandwiches on tin plates; will pass water in a tin pail, using a tin dipper. All refreshments will be passed in tin pans, the waiters will use tin coffee pots to refill the coffee cups. For a centerpiece for the table, will use a large tin cake pan, with an opening in the center, in which a small fish horn can be placed, the cake pan and fish horn both being filled with flowers. Shall decorate the rooms with tin as far as possible. In one archway shall use tin plates tied together with ribbon, a small hole being punched in the plates for the purpose. This will form a curtain for one archway. In another archway shall use tin cups for the same purpose. Tin candlesticks can be used if one is fortunate enough to have them. Wire toasters tied with ribbon can be hung on the walls to hold photographs. Small tin spoons tied with ribbons can be given as souvenirs, being passed around by the waiters, in a tin dust pan."

A few more suggestions would be that the bride carry her bouquet in a tin funnel and the bridegroom could have a very small tin horn in his buttonhole containing a small bouquet. Potted plants and flowers may be set in tin pails for jardinières and vases, and small tin basins can be passed instead of finger bowls. Tin foil may be put to various decorative uses, not forgetting to wrap the bonbons in it.

A Bluebird Party.

Cut the cards on which to write the questions from blue water color board or from heavy blue paper and they should be bird shaped. The answers are all birds and children will love this game. As a reward a "bluebird" pin might be a suggestion: 1. A child's plaything. (Kite). 2. What you do at every meal. (Swallow). 3. Nothing, twice yourself and fifty. (Owl). Less than the whole and the top of a house. (Partridge). Equality and decay. (Parrot). A celebrated English architect. (Wren). A tallor's implement. (Goose). Part of an ancient fireplace. (Crane). A girl's nickname and a baked dish. (Magpie). A turbulent country. (Turkey). To spoil and half a score. (Marten). Popular in baseball season. (Bat). A bit of wood and a disturbance. (Sparrow).

A Novel Sewing Shower.

There were 12 neighborhood girls who had grown up together and when the first one announced her engagement and approaching marriage, the others decided to give her a sewing shower. Each one brought a yard of

dainty figured lawn and the hostess supplied patterns for the following articles which were useful and easily made in the afternoon. There was lace, heading, ribbon, embroidery cotton, needles and thread on hand and the girls worked merrily. Here is what the happy little bride-elect took home: Small aprons, a sunbonnet, a slumber-pillow cover, a hair-combing jacket, a corset bag and a set of bureau drawer sachets.

The refreshments were: Lettuce sandwiches, lemonade, green-and-white frosted cakes and pistachio ice cream. They were served on little tables covered with white dollies.

Menu for a Spinster Tea.

Several weeks ago I had several requests for ideas for "spinster" affairs, of bachelor maids' parties. I just found this clever menu that would be just the thing to use at such a party, and hope it will not be too late to help out.

1. Always in pair.
2. Would they were here.
3. Front curis.
4. Objects of envy.
5. Warranted to pop.
6. A solace.
7. Sadly missed.
8. High backed comb.
9. Cause of woe.
10. Courtship.
11. A lover.
12. Our tears.
13. Left over.

KEY TO THE MENU.

1. Cup and saucer.
2. Jolly boys.
3. Curled molasses chips.
4. Pressed pears (pairs).
5. Bottle of ginger ale.
6. Tea.
7. Kisses.
8. Honey in comb.
9. Spiced tongue.
10. Mush.
11. A spoon.
12. Salt.
13. Heart (baked).

A Good Thing to Know.

To increase the lasting capacity of candles, keep them in the ice box for 24 hours before using. They will burn much slower, and to the up-to-date hostess who uses candles constantly this is quite an item. It is quite customary to light the dining room almost entirely with candles placed around the room or the plate rail, mantel and sideboard. These are not shaded, and it is a very pretty idea to have individual candles at each plate. These are usually shaded to protect the eyes.

A Jack Horner Pie "Shower."

This is a pretty way to present the gifts to a bride at a shower if the articles are small like hostery or handkerchiefs. Make a Jack Horner pie in the colors the hostess wishes to have and when dessert time comes (if the occasion is a luncheon) ask each guest to pull her ribbon and as the package is forthcoming, each one has some excuse to find like "This piece of pie is too large, please hand it to Miss B—, (the honored guest). And the next one says: "My piece is very much too small, just pass it to Miss B—." This makes loads of fun and opening the parcels adds zest to the occasion. It is well to have an appropriate sentiment written on the donor's card to be read aloud. Handkerchiefs and stockings in tissue paper with fringed ends and so look like the snapping motto favors so popular at all social functions. The ribbons tied around each one and all put within the pie.

MADAME MERRI.

NOTES From MEADOWBROOK FARM



Kill the potato beetles.
Make friends with the colts.
Good time to plan for a silo.
Overcrowding leads to disease.

Alfalfa keeps stock in good condition.
Alfalfa should be grown on every farm.

Alfalfa is the greatest of all subsoilers.
An alfalfa field is a hog's idea of heaven.

Raise what you feed and feed what you raise.

Alfalfa means more money and better homes.

Good condition is measured by both weight and health.

Loosening the subsoil allows the winter rains to soak in.

Your hens should be thoroughly dusted before setting them.

A hog to gain profitably must have plenty of pure water at all times.

Cabbage growing for kraut factories is a peculiarly uncertain business.

A thing of beauty and a joy throughout the entire year is a grape arbor.

Robbing late in the fall is a dangerous practice—that is, wholesale robbing.

Head off the lice and mites. Now is the time to thrust in the whitewash brush.

Switzerland is first and Belgium second in the interest taken in the raising of bees.

Plan to keep a few bees next year and see how much you learn in attending to them.

One of the big arguments in favor of the incubator is that the chicks are not born lousy.

The calf's digestive organs are very easily impaired. Keep them in good working condition.

Corn meal and skim-milk make the best of feed to hurry chicks along to the fry and broiler stage.

The good dairy cow not only pays for her feed but she pays for food for the whole family as well.

When you find a weak or queenless colony put it on top of a strong colony and it will be taken care of.

One beekeeper in the west took 128 pounds of comb honey from one colony last season—a pretty big yield.

Inbreeding of bees is as impractical as inbreeding of animals, but the difficulty is in controlling the drones.

A new asparagus bed may be started by plowing up an old bed, splitting the roots and resetting them.

The farm work is now crowding the daylight hours. Don't let this be the cause of neglect of the milk or cream.

Keep the hens supplied with a dust bath, and a little insect powder mixed with the dust will have its good effect.

The work of the dairy must be regular. There must be certain times to feed and certain times to milk the cows.

Plant plenty of beans. There is no better vegetable food grown, and the market for excess production is never glutted.

Grow early onions from sets, but the main crop from seeds. Onions from seeds keep better, grow larger and are of better quality.

When buying a new rooster, though he costs more, get a good one, because the rooster is half the pen during the breeding season.

The proportion of down-feathers on the legs of Asiatic chicks when hatched, indicates the amount of feathers they will have when matured.

You cannot fully judge of the capabilities of your cows unless you supply the feed in liberal quantities during the whole period of lactation.

In organic form the egg contains 650 grains of water, 125 grains of fat, 108 grains of lime, 80 grains of albumen, 26 grains of sugar and ten grains of ash.

Keep the weeds down.
Sweet clover is a biennial.
Alfalfa is the best soil doctor.

Good tillage brings the profits.
Alfalfa increases the milk flow.
Feed the potato bugs some poison.

Alfalfa has no equal as hog pasture.
A comfortable cow is a profitable cow.

There's no weed so good as a dead weed.
Alfalfa does things and never loaf on the job.

Alfalfa with a fair chance always makes good.
Plowing under clover saves hauling out manure.

Begin early to fight the mites with all your might.
A stingy feeder is never a profitable pork producer.

A high selling price does not lessen the cost of production.
As good a grain as you can find to make milk is ground oats.

Variety of foods should always be found in the chicken ration.
Concentrated foods should always be fed with those more bulky.

Everlasting watchfulness is one secret of success in stock raising.
It is often better to buy good fertilizing than to sell good stock.

Fresh water should be easily accessible to the ducklings at feeding time.
If your method of feeding is not giving results adopt another system.

Golden Bantam sweet corn is becoming more popular throughout the east.
Good seed corn is one of the most important factors in producing a good yield.

Better cows mean fewer of them to supply the demand for beef, milk and butter.
On the average farm poultry feeds can be raised more cheaply than bought.

No man can tell whether corn will grow or not, without making a germination test.
The fun in poultry raising is measured in the terms of profit for the most of us.

Keeping down the weeds will greatly assist in the extermination of the pesky flies.
A vinegar jug and a pie tin may be quickly made into a very serviceable water fountain.

What excellent yields of hay some fields would bring if the weeds would only turn to grass.
It does not pay to devote high-priced land for long periods to pasture and the production of hay.

Planting only such vegetables as are liked by the family is better than planting a great variety.
Wheat has been proved to be an excellent hog feed, practically equal pound for pound, to corn.

To kill Canada thistles in a field, put the field in some cultivated crop and keep the weeds down.
The busy hen is the productive one; hence she should be so fed as to induce the greatest activity, if in confinement.

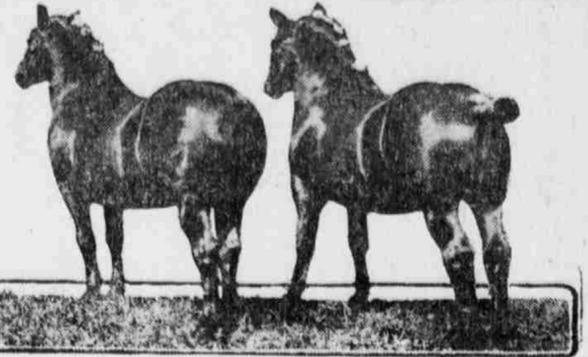
Ground oats, green clover hay and sweet skim milk make a good ration for the lambs after they are three weeks old.
Collingwood says there is no animal mixture under the sun so intricate, so compact, so full of power and force as the egg.

Don't lose a half a day in a critical time on account of a broken fork. Keep one or two extra ones on hand, also an extra handle.
In France they mix spices and herbs with the food given to fattening poultry, which are said to impart a delicious flavor to the meat.

Arrange to begin haying in good season. Now is the time to make your work adjust itself properly to the haying season. Look ahead and be ready.
Get good dairy cows, good alfalfa fields and a silo, and the farm success is assured.

There should by all means be a hay press in every community where hay is grown for market. Where farms are small, the owners should purchase one in partnership.
Don't feed swale hay. It isn't fit for feed. It is good for packing around crockery, iron castings and such things, but isn't fit to pack a horse's stomach with.

FARMERS SHOULD GROW HEAVIER HORSES



Right Kind of Percherons for Farm Use.

You and I and everyone who is in the business of farming and stock raising keep horses because they are our source of farm power. They are the engines that do our work. If we have undersized, scrubby, "cat-hammed" animals, the farm power that does our work is not as heavy as it should be.

It is some trouble and it requires a good deal of time to breed and rear a team of colts. When we grow a team of underweight horses we have wasted time. Farm machinery is not getting any lighter and it takes a good team of horses to pull a heavy mower or drill, a disk or a harrow all day in the hurry-up season.

We ought to raise big horses, not the tremendous "ton horses" used on firm streets for draying, but animals able and weighty enough to handle with ease the heavy machinery that the agriculturist must use at this time. If we are going to raise horses for the markets we will have to choose between two types in the very near future. The big demand is going to be for the massive draft horse or for the animal of the army type, says a writer in the Farm Progress.

Light-bull gasoline vehicles have eliminated from the markets many of the intermediate types of horses. The farm will have to be the main field of the horse in the future.

We can raise big horses anywhere in America with a very few exceptions. One of the things we will be forced to do is to look more carefully after the feeding of the draft type of colt. Our grains and grasses are just as nourishing as those of any of the great foreign horse-breeding sections where the finest types of heavy horses are bred and matured.

The trouble has been that we have paid more attention to our horses after they were three or four years old than we did when they were colts. I have noted that the yearling and the two-year-old colt is not given very much attention on the average farm.

The substitution of big horses for the small animals now found on the majority of farms cannot be accomplished in one year or in ten years. It will be a proposition of changing the breed, of getting up to the standard of the pure and the nearly pure bred. There are not enough heavy mares in most localities to start in making the change. Even this part of the change will have to be worked out slowly by the breeding of our mediocre mares to draft stallions.

While this method is a sort of a makeshift, anyone who knows conditions as they are on the average farm will agree that it is about the only practical way. The farmer cannot afford to sell off what brood mares he now has and buy the right type of mothers for the future heavy-weight farm draft animals. He will have to raise them and it will take two or three generations to get them where they ought to be for the real results to be apparent.

If we want to raise really good horses we will have to stop the practice of "roughing" the yearling and the two-year-old colt through the winter and letting them depend entirely upon pasturage through the summer. These two years are the most critical period in the growth and general development of the colt.

A colt will make about half of his growth during the first twelve months of his life. If he fails to do this a certain amount of stunting has been done that cannot be overcome by subsequent care and feeding.

ATTAIN SUCCESS IN HOG RAISING

Fresh Air, Sunshine, Pure Water and Lots of Exercise Are Essentials.

In his natural haunts, the hog was accustomed to abundant exercises, sunshine, pure air, fresh water, roots, herbs, acorns, worms and natural grasses. These are a delight to him, and to attain the greatest success in swine raising a variety of rations which will furnish these necessities in their various forms should be provided.

It is not absolutely necessary, nor at all times profitable to imitate nature in every detail, yet it should be done as far as practical. Fresh air, sunshine, pure water and lots of exercise can usually be provided without great cost of much effort. If pasture and crops are properly supplemented with concentrated feeds, any intelligent farmer should be able to make a success growing hogs, provided proper care and judgment are used in managing a herd.

Milk is Valuable Feed.
Milk is a valuable aid in hog feeding.

Three Dainty and Charming Frocks for Indoor Wear



The black charmeuse frock is made with a front drapery of "blonde" lace opening onto a fichu of white nixon. A soft silk crepe in flesh pink forms the second design and is worn with a deep fichu in a paler shade of pink. The effect is enhanced by the front butterfly bow, which is in black silk, flowered with deep crimson. The last sketch shows a delightful little model, the bodice and panier of which is in gray and blue flowered muslin, veiling a pale gray cashmere.

HOW TO SECURE GOOD LAMBS AND SHEEP



The following practical article on raising market lambs was read by MR. J. Withers, an experienced breeder, before the Farmers' Club of Western Ohio. He says:

Begin with the ewes before the breeding season. For two or three weeks put them on better feed. The best I have found for this is rape pasture. Let the ewes run on the rape for an hour twice a day when the forage is free from rain for the first few days until they get accustomed to it. This will put them in good flesh and in shape to raise vigorous lambs.

I always raise a few acres of turnips and these I feed regularly twice a day during the winter, in connection with ground oats and wheat bran. About

one quart for each sheep, with as much hay as they will eat up clean, is sufficient.

When the lambs are less than a week old they will begin to eat a little grain. The ewes must then be fed more liberally. I generally have a place where the lambs can be fed by themselves and then give them ground oats and a little bran in the morning, with cornmeal and bran at night.

I always give a feed of roots during the day. By this method I have raised lambs which have dressed 75 pounds at 13 weeks old. I always keep the following points in mind: Give plenty of clean water; dip in late summer; keep clean and in a good dry barn; give regular attendance and feed.